

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, libraries are defined as a collection of information and resources that include books, periodicals, newspapers, films, maps, documents, e-books, manuscripts, audiobooks, and other formats that are made accessed physically or digitally to people of all ages for reference or borrowing, and they are the centers of learning and an important part of the community through the opportunities provided for intellectual, spiritual and career growth; and

WHEREAS, organized for use and maintained by a public body, institutions, corporations, or private individuals, libraries provide a quiet place to learn, do research, or read for pleasure, and they offer other services including special informative events, author presentations and assistance from Librarians who are experts in organizing, locating and interpreting information; and

WHEREAS, benefitting libraries in over 500 communities nationwide, **Friends of Libraries** believe that local libraries are the cornerstone of the community, and are committed to providing opportunities for all individuals to engage in the joy of life-long learning; and

WHEREAS, United for Libraries, a division of the American Library Association (ALA), established **National Friends of Libraries Week** in 1986 to raise awareness, promote membership, celebrate the Friends of the Library groups nationally for their dedication to the people of their community, and they greatly enhance libraries by raising funds for additional programing, equipment and support, with more than \$1,000,000 raised to date; and

WHEREAS, locally, the **Friends of the Library of Tampa-Hillsborough County, Inc.** has an active group at every library in Tampa, and they are each committed to its mission of strengthening, supporting, and advocating for superior free public libraries, and they believe great libraries make strong communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim October 15-21, 2017 as

"NATIONAL FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY WEEK"

in the city of Tampa, Florida and urge all residents to recognize the valuable contributions our libraries provide, discover the variety of services they offer, and thank Friends of the Library of Tampa-Hillsborough County for their dedication to the libraries in our community and for encouraging learning for our residents.

Dated in Tampa, Florida this 12th day of October, 2017.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor

